



TEE Tournament

Vol. 1, Issue 4

TEE Times

TRAINING ★ EXPOSURE ★ EXPERIENCE

PGA golf professional finds it easy to give back

by Richard Beam, Long Beach VA Medical Center

Getting close to a PGA golfer may never be as easy as it is at the National Veterans TEE Tournament. You could find them at three of the golf courses providing instruction at the driving ranges, putting and chipping greens. The excitement could be felt in the air as veterans listened to each tip to make their golf game better.

One of those stirring all the excitement is Bryan Haas of Iowa City. Haas found his passion for golf at the tender age of four. He recalls swinging his first cut-down golf club. His love of the game came out swinging with the support his father, an Army veteran.



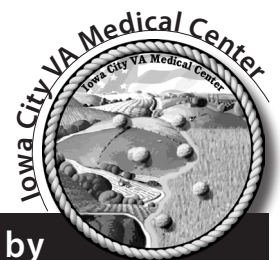
Bryan Haas, PGA professional golfer



Tom Hein, golf pro at Pleasant Valley instructs two TEE Tournament participants

Born on a military base in Germany as an Army brat, Haas was provided a foundation that has lead him to become an invaluable asset to the PGA community. By combining passions, he has been able to say "thanks to those who did what I don't think I could." Working with the PGA has provided him with resources and access to golf pros that have been instrumental in supporting the Iowa City VA GIVE program and helped change lives in profound ways making it a first in PGA history. that works directly with a VA hospital, a golf resort and the PGA.

Haas sums it up in a simple way, "this is a game for all ages and my way of saying thanks for all that I have been given by the game and our veterans. "





The Menu

Thursday Lunch

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- Polish sausages/
hot dogs on bun
- Sauerkraut
- Potato chips
- Fruit salad
- Dessert
- Iced tea and
lemonade

Thursday Awards Banquet

5 to 6:30 p.m.

- Sirloin steak
- Baked potatoes
- House salad with
assorted dressings
- Seasoned green beans
- Dinner rolls
- Cheesecake with
assorted fruit toppings
- Coffee, milk, iced tea

Friday Breakfast

6:30 - 8 a.m.

- Hotel continental
breakfast
- Cold cereal

Celebrate at tonight's closing banquet

Tonight, a special celebration of friendship, fun and recognition will conclude this week's activities for the more than 100 veterans who participated in the 15th National Veterans TEE Tournament.

Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Conference Center with a social to share some parting words and memories of activities from the earlier part of the week.

The Awards Banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Kinnick Rooms A and B, and is always a fun time to enjoy the recognition that is imparted on fellow golfers. It is also a time to bid farewell until next year when the event enjoys its 16th year of instruction, practice and camaraderie.

A final word of special thanks to all of you for participating in the Tournament, to the sponsors for their contributions, to the volunteers for all their hard work and to the PGA members for their expertise.

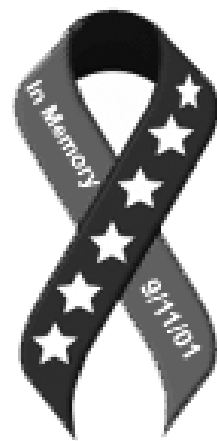
See you next year!

We will never forget: 9-11

On September 11, 2001, our world changed. The horror of this senseless attack was truly global in scale and touched our hearts in a deeply personal way. We stared in disbelief as we watched the towers of the World Trade Center crumble, the raging fire and smoke coming from the Pentagon, and the Pennsylvania field where flight 93 crashed.

By a joint resolution approved December 18, 2001 (Public Law 107-89), the Congress has designated September 11 of each year as "Patriot Day."

Let's join together to remember that fateful day and those who lost their lives.



United We Stand

Your feature course:
Quail Creek Golf Course



TEE Tournament participants are challenged by one of Quail Creek's water hazards

The Quail Creek Golf Course in North Liberty, Iowa, features 3,523 yards of greens from the longest tees for a par of 36. Designed by Robert Johnstone, the Quail Creek Golf Course opened in 1970 and has been recognized as one of the Top 50 nine-hole golf courses in the country by the National Golf Foundation. Quail Creek is a 36-par public golf course with Blue grass.



Course details:

BLUE TEES 74/ 126

Total yardage 3523

WHITE TEES 72.8/ 124

Total yardage 3397

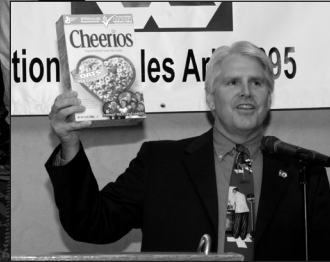
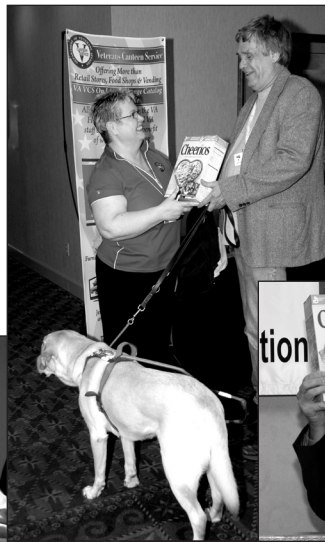
RED TEES 74.5/ 118

Total yardage 2746



Mark Smith readies to take a swing out of the rough with the help of his golf buddy.

Ar



Registration



Golf



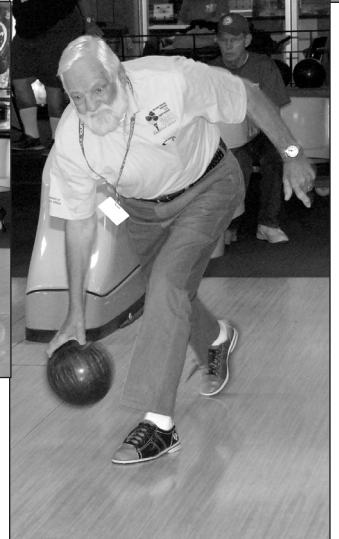
ound the TEE



Horseshoes



Bowling



Golf Clinics

No Lazy Dog Days Here!

by Jenny Tankersley Ballou, Hampton VA Medical Center

The dogs at the 15th National Veterans TEE Tournament are among the hardest working for the veterans throughout the week. But, their work doesn't end when the tournament is over. They are for a lifetime!

The phrase, "dogs are man's best friend," can certainly be underscored at this year's TEE Tournament. Guide dogs or service dogs, as they are also called, provide many of the veterans at this year's Tournament with a sense of freedom, a sense of safety and not to mention, a sense of direction.



There is no way you can put a price on the value that these service dogs provide to their companions. They literally are the "eyes" of their two legged friends.

Just ask Chuck Rabenau from St. Louis, whose dog Rollie Jeanine has been with him for almost 11 years. When asked what makes her so special, "I can't say enough about her. She's a tremendous dog and once you get a dog, you'll never go back to the cane," said Rabenau.

Veterans and their dogs create a profound partnership and help to unleash the potential in both of them. But it doesn't happen by accident. It takes an intensive training program for the dogs, orientation of man and dog to the service program and continuous interpretations by both to accomplish life's challenges.



Carl Darling, the youngest TEE participant, is a 27-year old Marine Corps veteran from Toledo, Ohio.

Blue Team



Veterans find friends for life

by Carol Watson, VA Central Office

Curtis Thornhill, an Air Force Vietnam veteran from Iowa City and Bob Briggs, an OEF/OIF Army National Guard combat wounded veteran from Hillsboro, Iowa, met last year at the GIVE Program and have become the best of friends. Both Thornhill and Briggs are attending the 2008 TEE Tournament for the first time. Thornhill and Briggs enjoy a fun moment at Colonial Lanes. "Making new friends is a big part of the Tournament," said Briggs.



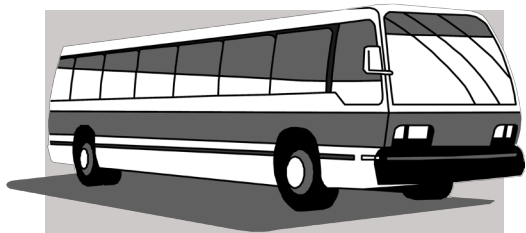
Yellow Team



Red Team



Black Team



Bus Schedule

NOTE: Each team has the same bus all day to go the golf courses.

Thursday, Sept. 11

7:30 a.m. - **All teams** load buses

Departure Information

Friday, Sept. 12

Van shuttles run from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Contact the "Travel Crew" - Angie and Doris at the front table in the Holiday Inn lobby to make sure they have your flight times. Six vans will be available to take you to the Quad Cities and Cedar Rapids airports.

Schedule of Activities

Thursday -- September 11

6 to 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at Holiday Inn Conference Center

8 to 11 a.m. Red Team at Lake MacBride Golf Course

Yellow Team at Quail Creek Golf Course

Blue Team at Blue Top Golf Course

Black Team at Elks Golf Course

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch (Companions' lunch at hotel)

2:30 to 5 p.m. Companions' Decorate Banquet Room in Kinnick Ballroom A & B at Holiday Inn Conference Center

5 to 6 p.m. Socialize at Holiday Inn Conference Center

6:30 to 9 p.m. Awards Banquet at Holiday Inn Conference Center

Friday -- September 12

6:30 to 8 a.m. Breakfast at Holiday Inn Conference Center

7 to 11 a.m. Check-out/Farewells Holiday Inn and Hampton Inn

7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rides to Airport and Bus Depot

TEE Tournament Stats at a Glance

Total age of veterans combined: 6,392

Average age of participants: 60.30

Oldest veteran: 92

Youngest veteran: 27

Number of participants: 107

First timers: 26

15-year participants: 5



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**Eagle
Scouts**



**Help Hospitalized
Veterans**



**Leadership VA
Alumni Association**



**Veterans
Canteen Service**